CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Study

Every text has specific features and function of language. The analysis of language in use in text can be analyzed according to discourse. Discourse is defined by Barton (2006) as a modern approach to text analysis for studying the ways that specific features of language contribute to the interpretation of texts in their various contexts and facilitates the understanding of organization and functions of language in texts.

There are two types of discourse, spoken discourse and written discourse. Spoken discourse uses more simple vocabulary and non-standard grammar. It also benefits from body language, gestures, intonation, pausing, rhythm, repetition etc. Meanwhile, written discourse is often planned, more complex, well-structured and transactional (Paltridge 2006).

One form of discourse is political discourse. Political discourse is about the text and talk of professional politicians or political institutions, such as presidenta and prime ministers and other members of government, parliament or political parties (Van Dijk, 1998). It focuses on political forums (such as public speech, advertisement, political propagandas, official documents, laws and regulations. debates) as the phenomenon of interest.

Political speeches are used by politicians to argue, to reason, to sustain their ideas, to continue in power, to oppress people and nations, to establish and perpetuate ideas, and or to defend people in their needs, to promote civil rights,

and peace (Fairclough, 2000). In line with Fairclough (2000), Feng & Liu (2010) say: "political speech is a kind of public speech given by authorities with political purposes that tries to influence a certain group of people" (p. 1). They try to influence or change people's choices, thoughts, and responses toward ideas, issues, concepts, or products. So, political speech is an aspect of political discourse which concerned with political contexts, actors and with politicians, political institutions, governments, political media, and political supporters operating in political environments to achieve political goals.

Donald Trump took office as the 45th President of the United States on January 20, 2017. He harbored his political aspirations since 2000. Donald Trump's campaign slogan, "Make America Great Again" resonated with the American citizens. His tax plan calling for reducing the corporate tax rate to 15% and replacing the Affordable Care Act ("Obamacare") with a different free-market plan earned him support from several quarters.

Lakoff (2016), Director of the Center for the Neural Mind & Society at the University of California at Berkeley, wrote about the use of language by Donald Trump in his personal website. He wrote Donald Trump simply uses effective discourse mechanisms to communicate what his wants to communicate to his audience. He had found that he is very careful and very strategic in his use of language.

Trump's campaign was, however, fraught with controversies. His association with the 'Birther issue' and also continued to be against Obama on various political issues such as the rise of ISIS. He was accused of lying and

embellishing facts during his election speeches and received a lot of negative backlash with major publications like 'Politico', 'The Washington Post', 'The New York Times', and the 'Los Angeles Times' . Despite his detractors and all the negative publicity surrounding him, he managed to emerge victorious in the general election on November 8, 2016 in which he defeated Hillary Clinton to become the President of the United States.

Donald Trump's exact position on the Muslim registry remains opaque. He held a campaign event at Youngstown State University in Ohio on August 15, 2016. He discussed his plans about Radical Islamic Terrorism. He described a dozen high-profile terror attacks on domestic and foreign soil and blamed Democratic rival Hillary Clinton and President Barack Obama for the rise of ISIS. Now, Donald Trump is officially gunning for the Muslims. He initiates an immediate 90-day suspension of issuing visas to people from select countries, which currently are Iraq, Iran, Syria, Yemen, Libya, Sudan and Somalia. He has signed an executive order titled Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry Into the United States.

One of the aspects that can be used to analyzed the text is grammar of transitivity (Fowler and Kress,1979). The transitivity system (Halliday, 1994) is used to realize the ideational function of a discourse. It construes the world of experience into a manageable set of process types: material, mental, relational, behavioral, verbal, existential processes. A process consists, in principle, of three components: (i). The process itself; (ii). Participants in the process; (iii). Circumstances associated with the process.

To understand better Donald Trump political intention at Youngstown State University in Ohio on August. 15, 2016, the study of systemic functional grammar with reference to experiential function is needed due to the processes help to reveal the meanings constructed by the speaker or writer (Halliday and Matthiessen, 2004). Fairclough also claims that choosing which process to describe the real happening bears "important cultural, political or ideological meaning" (1992, p.180).

Donald Trump clearly stated that Radical Islamic Terrorism has challenged the world especially America. He mentioned some examples of ISIS attack in America. For examples,

(1) 13 **were murdered**, and 38 wounded, in the assault on Ft. Hood.
(2) The Boston Marathon Bombing **wounded and maimed**
(3) In Chattanooga, Tennessee, five unarmed marines **were shot and killed** at a military recruiting center.
(4) Last December, 14 innocent Americans **were gunned down** at an office party in San Bernardino

By such kind of description, Donald Trump doesn't clearly mention the agent of the attack, that is, the causer of the accident, consequently making it obscure who should take the responsibility. The readers just interpreted the attacker is ISIS due to the organization mentioned before. Meanwhile, when mentioning the attack in Europe, Donald Trump can clearly mentioned the agent. The examples can be seen below:

(1) In November of 2015**, terrorists** went on a shooting rampage in Paris..
(2) In March of this year, **terrorists** detonated a bomb in the Brussels airport,
(3) This July, in the South of France, **an Islamic terrorist** turned his truck into an instrument of mass murder,
(4) A few weeks ago, in Germany, **a refugee** armed with an axe wounded five people in a gruesome train attack.

The agent of the acts such as shooting rampage, detonating the bomb, turned the truck are clearly stated as "terrorist". "a refugee" is also considered as a terrorist because a hand-painted ISIS flag had been found among his belongings in his room. He made it clear who should take the responsibility. To be concluded, Donald Trump mentioned differently the person who responsible for the attacks happened in America and Europe.

Analyzing language by means of transitivity can help readers think deeper and be alert to the ideology hidden in language. It has a constituent structure that can be described functionally in terms of process, participant, and circumstance, with process being the essential ingredient. It can be said that experiential function concerns with the clauses that have guises as the way of representing patterns of experience through the process of doing, process of being, process of existing, process of physiological and psychological, indicating perception, relational, activities of saying, commanding, asking, and etc. all of these elements can make the readers understand the verbal mode of the speech.

There are some researchers that have analyzed the metafunction in many different politicians. Kondowe (2014) analyzed how the third Malawian president Bingu wa Mutharika manipulated language in his second inaugural address to enhance his political ideologies and Zheng (2015) reveals Bush's deep-rooted ideology and the hidden ideology of Bush Administration.

In the other side, Koutchadé (2015) analysed the acceptance speech of the Nigerian President-elect, General Buhari and revealed that by using metafunction analysis has made it easy to highlight not only Buhari's experience of the events

he has described, but also his persuasive strategies used in his speech. Liping (2014) had studied a political discourse from the perspective of transitivity. He found that Churchill tends to use more material and relational processes. The main purpose of Churchill's speech is to persuade British people to support his decision of assisting Russia and fighting against Hitler.

Baseer and Alvi (2012) explored the art of the use of rhetorical devices and linguistic spin in Barack Obama's popular speech, 'The Great Need of the Hour' (2008). The analysis and interpretation explore the means through which he became successful in persuading the masses assemble around him. Martin (2012) aimed at analyzing the Iraq War exigence in the speech of Tony Blair at the Annual Labour Party Conference 2003. It revealed that Blair was not able to produce a plausible explanation for his decision to attack Iraq. Naz and Alvi (2012) also investigated the linguistic choices made by Barack Obama in his famous speech "Ending Iraq War, February 27, 2009. The results of the study represent that Obama has used more material clauses of action to intensify the need of American military action in Iraq. He has also used mental clauses to touch the emotional side of the audience. It appears that Obama is more concerned with the use of circumstance of spatial and temporal locations to make his account objective, trustworthy and authentic. Harwiyati (2016) used Systematic Functional Linguistics approach and only concern on process in transitivity system analysis by Halliday in Joko Widodo's speech at the APEC CEO summit November 10th, 2014, in Beijing, China. She found that all of transitivity processes appeared in the speech and the most found transitivity process in the speech is relational process.

Al Haq (2015) determined the main linguistic strategies that King Abdullah II uses in his speeches and found the creative expressions to show the reality as it is used in his speech. Sajjad (2015) analyzed Barack Hussein Obama's smart linguistic choices which represented his political ideologies of America towards the East and the Muslim world.

Nur (2015) took Nelson Mandela's presidential inauguration speech at Pretoria on May 10, 1994 as a sample to elucidate the role of Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG). She revealed that the architecture of Mandela's speech achieved his political purpose not only by corresponding with its lexicogrammmar but also by considering the contextual factors. Chinwe (2013) analyzed two inaugural speeches of two Nigerian past leaders; Alhaji Shehu Shagari (1979) and General Olusegun Obasanjo (1999), using the systemic functional grammar model propounded by Halliday. He has confirmed that the lexicogrammatical choices of transitivity in the inaugural speeches helped the readers in the interpretation of the experiential meanings of the two speeches.

The functional analysis of experiential function with reference to transitivity could enable us to have better understanding. A large number of studies have shown before have different finding due to the different of source of data and prove that the use of experiential function theory can successfully deconstruct its political discourse. Although some studies have investigated political discourse, different with the previous studies that discuss about experiential function in presidential speech, this research explores about experiential function that is found in Donald Trump's speech campaign about

Radical Islam Terrorism, at Youngstown State University in Ohio on August. 15, 2016 may present dissimilar characteristics. Due to its functionality, this study aimed to explore the function and application of experiential function. By conducting the analysis in the political discourse, we would be able to reveal how the politicians initiate their discourse with the audiences or voters, establish the relationships and convince the voters via transitivity.

1.2 The Problems of the Study

Based on the background that has been mentioned previously, the problems of the research are formulated as the following:

1) What elements of experiential function are dominantly used in Donald Trumps's speech about Radical Islamic Terrorism at Youngstown State University in Ohio?

2) How are the experiential function elements realized in Donald Trumps's speech about Radical Islamic Terrorism at Youngstown State University in Ohio?

3) Why are the experiential function elements realized in Donald Trumps's speech about Radical Islamic Terrorism at Youngstown State University in Ohio in the way they are?

1.3 The Objectives of the Study

1) To find out the elements of experiential function that are dominantly used in Donald Trumps's speech about Radical Islamic Terrorism at Youngstown State University in Ohio

2) To elaborate how the experiential function elements realized in Donald Trumps's speech about Radical Islamic Terrorism at Youngstown State University in Ohio

3) To explain why the experiential function elements are realized in Donald Trumps's speech about Radical Islamic Terrorism at Youngstown State University in Ohio in the way they are.

1.4 The Scope of the Study

This study applied the concept of the systemic functional linguistics (SFL) proposed by Halliday. This analysis was aimed at investigating experiential function with reference to transitivity realized in political speech of Donald Trump at Youngstown State University in Ohio about Radical Islamic Terrorism.

1.5 The Significances of the Study

Findings of the study are expected to be useful theoretically and practically.

1. Theoretically, the findings are expected to be useful for the readers, especially for the students of English department to understand experiential function realization especially in political speech.

2. Practically, the findings are expected to be useful for the next researchers to conduct research on the basis of SFL, to investigate the other phenomena related to experiential function, in which the finding can give significant input in linguistics as well as the contribution for the students of English department to create a creative and persuasive speech as a form of public speaking.